

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF OREGON

SARAH VITORT

Plaintiff,

v.

THE KROGER COMPANY, et al.

Defendant.

Case No.: 3:20-cv-01317-AC

Civil Case Assignment Order

- 1. Presiding Judge:** The above referenced case has been filed in the Portland Division of the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon and assigned to:

Presiding Judge Hon. John V. Acosta
Presiding Judge's Suffix Code* AC

*These letters must follow the case number on all future filings.

- 2. Courtroom Deputy Clerk:** Questions about the status or scheduling of this case should be directed to:

Pamela Geringer
Telephone: 503-326-8059
Email: pamela_geringer@ord.uscourts.gov

- 3. Case Administrator/Docket Clerk:** Questions about filings or docket entries in this case should be directed to:

Telephone: 503-326-8050

- 4. Place of Filing:** Any paper filings must be submitted to the Clerk of Court, Mark O. Hatfield U.S. Courthouse, 1000 S.W. Third Ave., Portland, OR, 97204. (See LR 3-1, LR 5-5.)

- 5. District Court Website:** Information about local rules of practice, CM/ECF electronic filing requirements, responsibility to redact personal identifiers from filings, and other related information can be found on the Court's website at ord.uscourts.gov.

- 6. Free Legal Assistance for Pro Se Litigants:** Litigants proceeding pro se (without a lawyer) may qualify for free legal assistance from the Oregon Chapter of the Federal Bar Association's Free Federal Law Clinic. To see if you qualify, apply at fedlawclinic.com.

6. Jurisdictional Authority of Magistrate Judges:

- a. **Pretrial Administration:** Pursuant to LR 72, the assigned United States Magistrate Judge is authorized to conduct all pretrial proceedings contemplated by 28 U.S.C. § 636(b) and Fed. R. Civ. P. 72 without further designation of the Court.

- b. **Trial by Consent and Appeal Options:** Pursuant to LR 73, 28 U.S.C. § 636(c), and Fed. R. Civ. P. 73, all United States Magistrate Judges in this district are certified to exercise civil

jurisdiction in assigned cases and, with the consent of the parties, enter final orders on dispositive motions, conduct trial, and enter final judgment which may be appealed directly to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals (instead of a district judge).

Parties are encouraged to consent to the jurisdiction of a Magistrate Judge by signing and filing the (attached) Consent to Jurisdiction by a United States Magistrate Judge and Designation of the Normal Appeal Route. There will be no adverse consequences if a party elects not to consent to a Magistrate Judge. A Magistrate Judge, however, may be able to resolve a case earlier as they are primarily assigned only to civil cases.

Additional information about United States Magistrate Judges in the District of Oregon is available on the Court's website.

DATED: August 6, 2020

**MARY L. MORAN
Clerk of Court**

by: /s/ J. Norgate
J. Norgate, Deputy Clerk

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Discovery and Pretrial Scheduling Order

To facilitate discovery and the effective management of this case, the Court orders that:

1. Discovery and Pretrial Deadlines: Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the parties shall,

- a. within 120 days of this Order:
 - i. File all pleadings pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 7(a) and 15;
 - ii. Join all claims, remedies, and parties pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 18 and 19;
 - iii. File all pretrial, discovery, and dispositive motions;
 - iv. Complete all discovery; and
 - v. Confer as to Alternate Dispute Resolution pursuant to LR 16-4(c).
- b. within 150 days of this Order:
 - i. File a Joint ADR Report pursuant to LR 16-4(d);
 - ii. File a Proposed Pretrial Order pursuant to LR 16-5.

2. Corporate Disclosure Statement: In accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 7.1 and LR 7.1-1, any non-governmental corporate party must file a corporate disclosure statement concurrently with its first appearance (*See also* LR 83-9).

3. Initial Conference of Counsel for Discovery Planning:

a. Except in cases exempted under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1)(B), upon learning the identity of counsel for Defendant(s), counsel for the Plaintiff(s) must initiate communications with counsel for Defendant(s).

b. All counsel must then confer as required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) within thirty (30) days after a defendant files a responsive pleading or a motion under Fed. R. Civ. P. 12. (*See* LR 26-1.)

c. Counsel should also discuss their client's positions regarding:

- i. Consent to a Magistrate Judge; and
- ii. Alternate Dispute Resolution options. ADR options include judicial settlement conferences or Court-sponsored mediation with highly qualified lawyer-mediators. Court-sponsored mediators agree to conduct mediation without cost to the Court or parties for four (4) hours, exclusive of preparation and travel time to and from the agreed location for mediation. Parties are encouraged to visit the Court's website for additional ADR information, including mediator biographies, subject-matter expertise, and contact information.

d. If counsel for all of the parties agree to forgo the initial disclosures required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1), they shall file with the Court the Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a) Discovery Agreement form issued with this order (*See LR 26–2*). Whether or not the parties agree to forgo the initial disclosures, they may seek discovery once the initial conference of counsel for discovery planning contemplated by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) has occurred. (*See LR 26–1*.)

4. Rule 16 Court Conference for Scheduling and Planning: Counsel for Plaintiff(s) and for Defendant(s) must, during or promptly after the conference of counsel referred to in section 3 above, contact the assigned judge's courtroom deputy clerk to schedule a Rule 16 Conference for scheduling and planning. (*See LR 16–2*.)

At the Rule 16 Conference, the parties must be prepared to discuss discovery, whether there is consent to a Magistrate Judge, and any scheduling or other issues, including any requested modifications to the initial scheduling order set forth in section 1 above, and possible submission of trial exhibits electronically (*See LR 5–7(b)*).

5. Service of this Order: Counsel for the Plaintiff (the "filing party") must serve this order and all attachments upon all other parties to the action. (In cases removed to this Court, the removing defendant is considered the "filing party.") (*See LR 3–5*.) A *pro se* filing party is required to serve this order and all attachments upon all other parties to the action.

DATED: August 6, 2020

**MARY L. MORAN
Clerk of Court**

by: /s/ J. Norgate
J. Norgate, Deputy Clerk

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Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1) Discovery Agreement

Pursuant to LR 26-2, I state that the parties who have been served and who are not in default have agreed to forgo the disclosures required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1).

DATED: _____

Signature: _____

Name and OSB ID: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Firm Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Parties Represented: _____

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**Consent to Jurisdiction by a Magistrate Judge
and Designation of the Normal Appeal Route**

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P 73(b), as counsel for the party (parties) identified below, I consent to have a United States Magistrate Judge conduct any and all proceedings in this case, including entry of orders on dispositive motions, trial, and entry of final judgment. I understand that withholding consent will not result in any adverse consequences. Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 73(c), I agree that an appeal from a judgment entered at a Magistrate Judge's direction may be taken to the court of appeals as would any other appeal from a district court judgment.

DATED: _____

Signature: _____

Name and OSB ID: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Firm Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Parties Represented: _____

U.S. District Court – Oregon
Civil Case Management Time Schedules

Local Rule	Event or Requirement	Time Frame	Comment
LR 16-1(d)	Discovery and Pretrial Scheduling Order (with attachments)	Issued by the Clerk's Office at new civil case initiation, along with the summonses	Required to be served on all parties by the filing party (<i>See LR 3-5</i>)
LR 26-1	Initial Conference for Discovery Planning	Within 30 days of a defendant filing a responsive pleading or a motion under Fed. R. Civ. P. 12	Held between the parties
LR 16-2	Rule 16 Conference	Scheduled by the assigned judge after the required LR 26-1 initial discovery planning conference	Affirmative duty on all counsel to contact the assigned judge's courtroom deputy (<i>See LR 16-2(a)</i>)
LR 16-4(c)	ADR Conference Requirements	Within 120 days from the date the Discovery and Pretrial Scheduling Order is issued	Parties must confer with other attorneys and unrepresented parties to discuss ADR options
	Joint Status Report	Within 120 days from the date the Discovery and Pretrial Scheduling Order is issued	Required in cases assigned to Judge Jones
LR 16-2(e)	Completion of Discovery	Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, within 120 days from the date the Discovery and Pretrial Scheduling Order is issued	Discovery deadlines are set forth in the Discovery and Pretrial Scheduling Order
LR 16-4(d)	Joint ADR Report	Within 150 days from the date the Discovery and Pretrial Scheduling Order is issued	The parties must file a Joint ADR Report
LR 16-5	Joint Proposed Pretrial Order	Unless otherwise modified pursuant to LR 16-5(a), within 150 days from the date the Discovery and Pretrial Scheduling Order is issued	The Joint Proposed Pretrial Order filing deadline is established in the Discovery and Pretrial Scheduling Order
LR 16-4(f)(2)(B)	Notice to the Court that the Parties Are Unable to Select a Court-sponsored Mediator from the Court's list of mediators	Within fourteen (14) days after entry of a court order referring a case for Court-sponsored mediation	Plaintiff's attorney (or the <i>pro se</i> plaintiff) is responsible for notifying the assigned judge who will then designate a mediator
LR 16-4(h)(1)	Notification of Private ADR Results	Not later than seven (7) days after the conclusion of private ADR proceedings	Plaintiff's attorney (or the <i>pro se</i> plaintiff) is responsible for notifying the court
LR 16-4(h)(2)	Report of Court-sponsored Mediator	Not later than seven (7) days following the conclusion of the mediation if no settlement is achieved	Court-sponsored mediator is responsible for notifying the court